

**PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee  
Department of Health and Human Services**

**U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AWARD FOR MANAGERIAL  
EXCELLENCE IMPROVING PHARMACY SERVICE OR PUBLIC  
HEALTH COVER SHEET (please print or type)**

**CANDIDATE'S**

**GRADE/RANK/NAME:** 0-5/CDR/Donald L. Branham

**POSITION TITLE:** Chief Pharmacist

**WORK ADDRESS:** Choctaw Nation Health Care Center  
One Choctaw Way  
Talihina, OK 74571

**PROPOSED CITATION (not to exceed 25 words):**

We hereby nominate CDR Donald L. Branham for the USPHS Award for Managerial Excellence Improving Pharmacy Service.

**RECOMMENDED BY:** LT Jason D. Carter and LCDR Clinton D. Bullock

**ADDRESS:** Choctaw Nation Health Care Center  
One Choctaw Way  
Talihina, OK 74571

**PHONE NUMBER:** (918) 567-7000

**NAME OF CANDIDATE'S**

**IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR:** Reece Sherrill

**SIGNATURE OF IMMEDIATE  
SUPERVISOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Reece W. Sherrill* 1/10/06

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (OPTIONAL):**

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**NOMINATION OF CDR DONALD L. BRANHAM  
FOR THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AWARD FOR MANAGERIAL  
EXCELLENCE IMPROVING PHARMACY SERVICE OR PUBLIC  
HEALTH**

CDR Donald Branham is nominated for the Public Health Service (PHS) Award for Managerial Excellence Improving Pharmacy Service or Public Health for his sustained quality performance of pharmacy duties at Choctaw Nation Health Care Facility in Talihina, OK from 05-01-04 to 11-01-05.

CDR Branham is the Chief pharmacist (0-6 Billet) at Choctaw Nation Health Care Facility who is responsible for 24 pharmacists, 17 technicians and manages a budget of over \$8 million. This includes the hospital in Talihina and 5 field clinics located within the Choctaw Nation. During this time period he independently managed moderate to complex pharmacy assignments with little direct oversight. Examples of the type of service CDR Branham performed included:

- Implementation of robotics at the main facility in Talihina and field clinic at Idabel, OK. The Parata implementation was a bold move since an interface with RPMS had not been developed. This device decreases patient wait time, increases patient safety, and allows staff to perform other tasks.
- Under Branham's leadership, the Residency Program was developed and implemented. The program was accredited by ASHP in September 2005.
- Developed and designed a clean room to fit USP 797 guidelines in the Inpatient Pharmacy
- Designed and implemented walk-up counseling bays in the Outpatient Pharmacy to improve the workflow.
- He has overseen and been involved in the start up of the Choctaw Nation Tobacco Cessation Clinic.
- Mandated the implementation of MedMarx medication error reporting system.
- Actively involved in the implementation of Medication FMEA's, which look at potential medication safety issues.
- Implemented eMAR & currently working on Electronic Health Record
- Played a major roll in the establishment of the " Choctaw Nation Pain Clinic" which allowed certified providers to increase their quality of care to each patient. This "Pain Clinic" has approximately 250 patients

CDR Branham admirably performed his duties to the satisfaction of patients, coworkers, and management. He assured that the services provided were of a scope, quality, and quantity consistent with IHS policies and standards. Through his continuous dedication of providing excellent pharmaceutical care to the patients of the Choctaw nation, he has managed to find time to branch out and improve the patient care provided in other departments. His dedication in furthering the mission of the IHS and PHS was evident in his attention to quality and details. His punctuality, ability to work with others, and professionalism enhanced the overall efficiency of the program and positively influenced other employees.

Of particular importance were suggestions to improve the unit's provision of services. For example, he instituted major formulary changes to decrease costs and decrease hi-risk (sound-a-like, look-a-like) medications. He has also written the Policy & Procedures manual to comply with current JCAHO standards, updated and improved the Choctaw Nation formulary book which now contains cost data and critical JCAHO standards geared to the providers and is available in a pocket-size edition, he obtained the service of Audiocare, an automated phone-in refill program, to improve the refill system. In addition to being a positive factor in the operation of his program, He applied a team approach to clinical care with members of other departments thereby positively affecting their programs also. His dedication to providing quality service has brought him well-deserved recognition by patients, peers, and his supervisor.

CDR Branham's sustained high-level performance strongly supported IHS' mission of improving the health status of Native Americans. Because of dedicated officers like him, IHS is able to meet its basic health care delivery needs. As a result of his notable, strong performance, the patients of the Choctaw Nation Health Care Facility received better health care.